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THE KANSAS CITY STAR.

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SPORTS

Royals lose their season opener 14-7

MORE INSIDE

- Duffy and the Royals bullpen implode in opening day loss to White Sox **1B**
- A day with Denny Matthews for his 50th KC Royals opener **Sam Mellinger 1B**

JOHN SLEEZER jsleezer@kcstar.com

Kansas City Royals owner David Glass and Julian Irene Kauffman throw out the first pitches before Thursday's season opener against the Chicago White Sox at Kauffman Stadium.

Russia retaliates, says it will expel 60 American diplomats

BY RICHARD PÉREZ-PEÑA AND ANDREW HIGGINS
New York Times

LONDON

Russia on Thursday escalated a confrontation with Europe and the United States over the poisoning of a former Russian spy in Britain, saying it would expel 60 American diplomats and an unspecified number of envoys from other countries to retaliate for a mass expulsion of Russian diplomats working in the West and beyond that was ordered this week.

The action, which also includes closing the U.S. Consulate in St. Petersburg, was in retaliation for the expulsion of more than 150 Russian officials from other countries — itself a reaction to a nerve-agent attack on British soil that Britain and its allies have blamed on Moscow.

The U.S. ambassador to Russia, Jon M. Huntsman Jr., was summoned to the Foreign Ministry, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov announced. Sixty U.S. diplomats will be expelled from Russia — the same as the number of Russian diplomats whom Washington is expelling. The Americans were given until April 5 to leave the country.

In addition, Russia plans to expel an unspecified number of diplomats from the more than 20 other countries and NATO that joined Britain and the United States in expelling Russians. Lavrov said the number would "mirror" the number of expelled Russians, which suggested that the ultimate total might rise

SEE RUSSIA, 8A

BROTHER OF MAN SLAIN BY POLICE SPEAKS OUT

JEFF CHIU AP

Stevante Clark, center right, speaks during the funeral services Thursday for his brother Stephon Clark at Bayside Of South Sacramento Church in Sacramento, Calif. A standing-room-only crowd packed the church to celebrate the life of the 22-year-old black man who was shot to death by Sacramento police, prompting angry protests and a resolve to force changes in police departments around the country.

MORE INSIDE The Rev. Al Sharpton and others chastised President Donald Trump for failing to comment on police shootings of young black men. **8A**

Hospital issues alert after measles diagnosis

BY ANDY MARSO
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The largest medical center in the Kansas City area is warning patients and employees they may have been exposed to measles.

The University of Kansas Hospital said Thursday that a person who was treated at the hospital from Friday, March 23, to Monday, March 26, has tested positive for the highly contagious viral illness.

Gerald Kratochvil, a spokesman for the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, said the KU case is not related to the current outbreak that started in a Johnson County day care and has sickened 13 people in three counties so far.

"The new case was contracted via international travel," Kratochvil said in an emailed response.

Measles is still common in parts of Europe, Asia, the Pacific and Africa, and unvaccinated people who travel to and from those regions have been known to carry it to the United States.

But it's very rare in the U.S., and Olathe Health Pediatrics

SEE MEASLES, 2A

State budget scorecard: Education among the biggest winners

BY ALLISON KITE
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JEFFERSON CITY

A state budget worth nearly $28 billion is on its way to the Missouri Senate with big wins for K-12 and higher education and disappointment for lawmakers hoping to add more funds to health services for low-income people.

Legislators shot down key priorities in Republican Gov. Eric Greitens' budget, instead carving their own way, but House Democrats' efforts were often thwarted as they advanced their own spending priorities and tried to fend off an amendment to defund Planned Parenthood.

The House gave final approval to its budget Thursday after Tuesday's 10-hour debate and first-round approval. The big winners were primarily Republican priorities.

Here's a scorecard.

Winner: Higher education

Colleges and universities were spared an additional $70 million in cuts on top of reductions passed last year by the General Assembly and deepened by Greitens. When lawmakers returned this session, Greitens proposed cutting yet again but met opposition in the House Budget Committee.

To hold on to those funds, Missouri colleges had to agree that they wouldn't raise tuition by more than 1 percent for next school year. The idea, promoted by Rep. Scott Fitzpatrick, a Shell Knob Republican and chairman of the budget committee, was aimed at keeping higher education affordable.

Rep. Kip Kendrick, a Columbia Democrat and ranking member of the budget com-

SEE STATE BUDGET, 9A

IN DEPTH

KC PROGRAM A 'GAME CHANGER'

A Kansas City online education program gets credit for taking potential dropouts and turning them around. **5A**

Late delivery possible Sunday

The Kansas Jayhawks are in the Final Four, and we don't want you to miss a moment! In an effort to provide you with the most in-depth coverage of Saturday's game, production of the paper will be delayed. Please expect late delivery of your Sunday paper. As a reminder, you can always access our eEdition at kcstar.com/eedition and read today's news now.

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